



# Pathways for Paraprofessionals Checklist

To become a Special Education teacher through the Pathways for Paras registered apprenticeship program at Missouri State University, It is highly important that you complete each of these tasks!



As part of the Pathways program, you are considered a Department of Labor registered apprentice. Benefits of the apprenticeship program include:

**Hands-on Experience:** Gain practical, on-the-job training.

**Earning While Learning:** Receive a salary during training, even student teaching.

**Industry-Recognized Credentials:** Obtain credentials recognized by the industry and Department of Labor.

**Career Advancement:** Access higher-paying job opportunities.

**Mentorship and Support:** Benefit from guidance by experienced professionals.

**Financial Assistance:** Potential support for education-related expenses.

## FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO SUCCESSFULLY PARTICIPATE IN PATHS FOR PARAS PROGRAM

- Complete the Interest Form**  
This will let us know that you would like to be in this apprenticeship program. [Pathways for Paraprofessional Interest Form.](#)
- Apply to MSU**  
For undergraduates, select the Special Education/Cross-Categorical BSED program. It is free for undergraduates to apply. For graduate students, select Special Education, Alternative Certification Track, MSED. There is a \$60 application fee for graduate students. [View this page for more information on applying.](#)
- Fill out the FAFSA**  
Go to the [FAFSA website found here](#) and complete the steps to fill out the FAFSA.
- Apply for Financial Aid**  
[TEACH Grant](#)  
[FastTrack Grant](#)  
[MSU Foundation scholarships](#)  
[Outside scholarships](#)  
For Questions: [Make an appointment with Financial Aid advisor.](#)
- Schedule Appointment with your Advisor**  
For both Graduates and Undergraduates, [view the education advisement page](#), and then schedule an appointment with an advisor.
- Register through MO Jobs**  
[Please use this link to complete the MO Jobs application.](#)
- Workforce Development Grants**  
You may be eligible for the ABA Grant, which includes 10 counties in Missouri. [Please use this link to complete the ABA application.](#)
- Register for Classes**  
After meeting with your advisor, you can register for your classes at your earliest registration date and time. For assistance with registering, you can ask your advisor or [review this webpage.](#)
- Complete, Sign, and Submit FERPA Form**  
[Please use this link to find the FERPA form to complete.](#) This gives permission for MSU to communicate with your school district. You will need to sign onto MyMissouriState in order to complete it. It is vitally important that you sign and submit this form.
- You will receive a digital 671 form from the Department of Labor.**  
Please sign and submit your 671 Employer Agreement to confirm your participation in the Missouri State University Pathways for Paras Registered Apprenticeship program.

**Note:** You should check your university email regularly. All communications, like financial aid and Pathways updates, will come through here and not your personal email.

For questions or concerns, please contact [PathsforParas@MissouriState.edu](mailto:PathsforParas@MissouriState.edu).

For general information about the program, [check out this website.](#)